RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 2nd December, 1996/11th Agrahayana, 1918 (Saka)

The House met at Eleven of the Clock, **The Deputy Chairman** *in the Chair.*

11.00 A.M.

MEMBERS SWORN

1. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad (Jammu and Kashmir)
2. Dr. Karan Singh (Jammu and Kashmir)
3. Shri Sharief-Ud-Din Shariq (Jammu and Kashmir)
4. Shri Wasim Ahmad (Uttar Pradesh)

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I welcome the Members who have taken the oath today. Three of them had been Members of this House before from Jammu and Kashmir. I welcome the new Members who have taken the oath today from Uttar Pradesh. We hope their participation in the proceedings of the House will enrich the parliamentary discussions. I have to make an announcement.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Dr. M. Channa Reddy, a former Member of this House and Governor of Tamil Nadu, early this morning.

Born in January, 1919, at Sirpur Village in Hyderabad District, Dr. Channa Reddy was educated at the Osmania University Medical College, Hyderabad. An agriculturist, Dr. Reddy was one of the founders of the Andhra Vidyarathi Mahasabha and Andhra Yuvajana Samiti in 1939 and 1940 and was associated with several student, youth, social, educational, literacy and cultural organizations.

Dr. Channa Reddy started his legislative career as a Member of the Provisional Parliament in 1950. Thereafter, he became a Member of the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly from 1956 to 1962 and again from 1962 to 1967 and served as a Minister in the Andhra Pradesh Government from 1962 to 1967.

He led the Indian delegation to the World Conference of Agriculturists held under the auspiees of the FAO in Rome, in 1953.

Dr. Reddy represented the State of Andhra Pradesh, in this House, from March 1967 to April 1968 and again from April 1968 to August 1968. He also served as Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals in the Union Council of Ministers from March 1967 to August 1968.

Dr. Reddy also served as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

In the passing away of Dr. M. Channa Reddy, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian and an able administrator.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Dr. M. Channa Reddy.

I request the Members to rise in their places and observe silene as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed soul.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

I adjourn the house till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

विदेशों में व्यापार संवर्धन कार्यालयों की स्थापना

*141. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने विदेशों में व्यापार संवर्धन कार्यालय स्थापित करने का निर्णय लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे कार्यालय किन-किन देशों में स्थापित किए जाने की संभावना है;

(ग) इन कार्यालयों के कब तक कार्य आरम्भ कर देने की संभावना है;

(घ) क्या सरकार ऐसे कार्यालयों को कारगर बनाने के लिए राज्य व्यापार निगम की सहायता और सहभागिता प्राप्त करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में राज्य व्यापार निगम की भूमिका क्या होगी?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोला बुल्ली रामैया): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Government's revised stand on disinvestment

*142. DR. MOHAN BABU:
DR. Y. IAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government's revised stand on disinvestment; and

(b) the present stand of the Government in regard to the role of the public sector in the economy of the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Government desires that disinvestment should be done in a transparent manner and should take into consideration the interests of various stake-holders, including the workers A Disinvestment Commission has been established in August 1996 to advise the Government on matters relating to disinvestment.

(b) The public sector will continue to be an important component of Indian industry. Public Sector Undertakings should become strong, competitive and efficient.

Investigation into Anti-Dumping Duty on PTA

*143. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering investigation into anti-dumping duty on PTA, against an application by an Indian private company, which is not even a producer of PTA;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to stop any move by the Indian producer to restrict imports in order to monopolise and usurp profit in a PTA deficit country, especially where the end produce of PTA, is used by small scale units giving employment to poor people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) Some petitions have been received very recently by the "Designated Authority" notified under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, seeking investigation of alleged dumping of PTA into the country. The "Designated Authority" is undertaking preliminary examination of these petitions to decide whether or not a regular investigation on merits should be undertaken. During actual investigations, opportunity is afforded to all concerned interests, including users, to present their point of view before the Authority.

Average consumption of paper

*144. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the average consumption of paper in India and the developed countries; and

(b) the per capita consumption of paper in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The per capita annual consumption of paper in India and in some of the developed countries is as under:—

India	3.00 Kg.
Japan	80.00 Kg.
Germany	12.00 Kg.
U.S.A.	300.00 Kg.

(b) Per capita consumption of paper, state-wise in the country, is not centrally maintained.